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News Release

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St. Paul man sentenced for distributing child pornography

A 22-year-old St. Paul man was sentenced today in federal court for distributing child pornography.

On Sept. 26 in St. Paul, United States District Court Judge Richard Kyle sentenced Brandon Daniel Wilson-Allen to 97 months in prison and a lifetime of supervised release on one count of distribution of child pornography. Wilson-Allen was indicted on June 12, 2007, and pleaded guilty on Aug. 9, 2007.

According to Wilson-Allen's plea agreement, from March 2006 through July 2006 he admitted that he knowingly distributed by computer more than 100 images of visual depictions involving the use of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

This case is the result of an investigation by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Tricia A. Tingle.

This case is part of Project Safe Childhood (PSC), a national initiative that encourages the use of multi-jurisdictional task forces to investigate and prosecute cases that involve the sexual exploitation of children over the Internet. PSC urges that law enforcement efforts be complemented by community-wide campaigns to assist victims of exploitation and to educate parents, other adults, and children about Internet safety.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, one in 33 children receives an unwanted sexual solicitation online each year. One in four children experiences unwanted exposure to sexually explicit material on the Internet each year. And, more than 20,000 images of child pornography are posted on the Internet every week. Moreover, recent research conducted by the Federal Bureau of Prisons indicates a strong correlation between possessing or distributing child pornography and committing sexual-contact crimes against children.